

# THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1870.

The New York Times boasts that *Harper's Weekly* is doing "admirable service" for the benefit of the Republican party in the political campaign now going on in that city and State.

Yet Southern people continue to buy and read it as a literary weekly.

## United States Senator.

We are as much mortified as surprised with the course adopted by some of our friends of the North Carolina press in regard to the pending election for United States Senator by the General Assembly soon to convene in Raleigh. We say friends, for as such we esteem them—friends personally, collaborators in the same cause, and as zealously devoted to the Conservative party as we are. But believing that their course is not only injurious to the party but unbecoming the press, we must respectfully but earnestly enter our protest.

The Conservative party very justly claims that within its ranks are found nine-tenths of the virtue, character, intelligence and worth of the State. Its press is the exponent of this party, and has in its keeping much of its reputation. Our recent decisive victory was owing more to the crimes and corruptions of our opponents than from any positive enunciation of principles upon our part. We were struck with the force of a remark made to us recently by a leading North Carolina Radical who, being a member of the late Legislature knew whereof he spoke, that if the Conservatives, in the coming Legislature, were guilty of half the misdeeds which his party had committed in the last, the result would be reversed at the next election, with even a more decided victory for the Radicals. While the premises are not possible, the argument is conclusive.

The Conservative cannot, and will not, disappoint the just expectations of the people, either in their acts of legislation or in the selection of officers. If they do they will deserve to be, and will be, beaten when the people are again called upon to pass their judgment. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary for public speakers and the press to forego all more individual preferences and forget all more individual prejudices. Our legislation and our elections must be governed by the true interests of the whole State, and not controlled by local or individual feelings.

We have been led to these observations from witnessing the personal character given by some of our contemporaries to the discussion of the merits of several prominent gentlemen who have been spoken of in connection with the United States Senatorship. We fear their opinions are influenced by their likes and dislikes, as their language most assuredly is. There is not a gentleman named in connection with this excited position by the Conservative press who is not entirely above reproach. Every one of them is distinguished either in the civil or military history of North Carolina, and some in both. The characters of all are such as to justify any aspirations they may have for the office, and their abilities are equal to the demands of the position. Personally and politically they are proper representatives of North Carolina Conservatism.

It does seem to us that from this standpoint we should discuss this question. A different course brings reproach upon the party, and detracts from the dignity and influence of the press. What may be our personal relations with BRAGG, GRANTHAM, VALES, RANSOM, MERRINSON, WARREN, ALLEN, DAIGAN, or any other gentleman named in connection with the Senatorship, the people have nothing to do. They have no right to demand it, and we would not be justified in parading it before our readers. If we were warmly attached to them personally, our judgment of their merits might be brought into question. If we felt unkindly towards them we could not expect our distorted feelings to meet with sympathy from others. However bitterly we might denounce them, we could not shake public confidence in their integrity or lower the public estimate of their exalted characters. Personal friendships and personal feuds should not be permitted to influence newspaper discussions of the merits of candidates. An editor should forget his individual identity in advising the people in regard to men. There can be no other safe rule.

"If self the wavering balance shake,  
The fairly well adjusted."

Two important points to be attained in the election of Senator, and which should control the action of members of the Legislature:

First—The persons elected should not be disqualified by the Constitution of the United States. The people of North Carolina have expressed their opinion in regard to this question. Among the entire number of Conservatives elected to the Legislature, we know of but one who falls within the proscriptions of the Fourteenth Amendment, although it is a disputed point whether this amendment applies to members of the Legislature, so particular have they been to conform to all the probable requirements of the law. We do not think that these representatives would be justified in pursuing a different course in electing officers.

Second—He should be a representative man, in sympathy with the people and the true exponent of them. The time has passed when men should be chosen merely because they were good "Union men" during the war. If any man is sufficiently loyal to have received the pardon of Congress, he is loyal enough to represent us in the Senate, however great his sins of rebellion may have been. Indeed, one who has been thoroughly identified with the South in feeling and action, if he be a proper person in other respects, can do us more good than those with opposite records. The Northern people desire to hear from our real representative men, and we should endeavor to place one of such in the Senate.

## South Carolina Election.

The returns of the election recently held in South Carolina are not yet sufficient to present an official estimate of the result. But if the unprincipled, despicable treachery and bare faced rascality of Gov. Scott and his adherents are to form any index to what the declared result will be, we fear that our friends of sister Carolina have their burden of oppression and dishonesty in the presence of the unprincipled crew now running their ship of State and speeding to the billows of destruction, again fastened upon them for an additional term.

The Reformers have had a mighty task—as mighty as it was noble. They have manfully battled against the fearful numerical odds of unprincipled hirelings to rescue their State from such ignominious control. But alas, what are struggles in the defence of right and justice against the towers of oppression, when both power and its minions in every station are organized against them? We believe in the God-inspired principle that "Corruption wins not more than honesty," as to the ultimate result as applied to the great Radical fraud so long enforced upon the South; but the doctrine of the day that "might makes right" has met with a temporary development and success resulting too often in the defeat of virtuous and intelligent effort.

The election in South Carolina has been entirely under the control of Governor Scott. He has had the appointment of his own poll holders, and has experienced no difficulty in finding minions to carry out his fraudulent and unprincipled scheme. For days the ballot-boxes were left to the faithful guardianship of the *immovable* poll-holders; and who can for one moment doubt the result of that guardianship and its uses? Then, again, no registration was required, and how many of the thousands of Radical negroes were so far wanting in their allegiance to their Union League as to neglect the opportunity so favorably arranged for their voting twice, three, or as often as they thought it convenient or necessary?

Alas! for South Carolina and its once mighty citizens, now in the bonds of their humiliation. Indeed does its virtue and intelligence find their struggles against oppression a herculean task. But we pray God that the day of their relief, though deferred, is not far distant.

## Internal Improvements.

After every victory, the next question is how shall its fruits be reaped and by whom. There is always a large number of men whose eagerness for the spoils is in exact proportion to the distance at which they remained from the fight. This class of men is easily disposed of. They are entitled to nothing. The real difficulty arises in adjusting the claims of the parties who actually engaged in the combat. In doubtless, every victory during the late war, each command, we dare say, invariably thought the whole result hinged upon its own particular good conduct. That there should be such a difference of opinion in regard to the relative merits of the different component parts of a party to any contest, can be no matter for surprise, so long as the same transaction may be looked at from so many different standpoints. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that there should not be an entire unanimity of sentiment between the Eastern and the Western parts of the State in regard to the selection of United States Senator. On the one hand it is claimed that the selection of a Western man is a matter of simple justice. On the other hand it is replied that there is neither fairness nor justice in charging either John Pool or Gen. Abbott to the account of Eastern Conservatives and thus to cut them off from competition for the succession to Gen. Abbott's seat. Whether praise is due to the West, for the present full measure of its well doing, rather than censure, for its past short measure, is a question we do not propose now to discuss. It so happens that the majority of the dominant party in the Legislature came from the West and, other things being equal, they may desire to select a Western man for Senator. We are not disposed to admit the propriety of such a selection simply as a matter of right and justice to the West upon the grounds alluded to, but we shall yet not complain if the Conservative Party shall, in the exercise of a sound discretion, elect a Western man. As a member of the party we are perfectly willing to stand by its standard-bearers no matter from what section of the State they may come.

There is one question, however, upon which in times past there has been more or less difference of opinion, not only between the different parties in the State, but between different portions of the same parties. We refer, especially, to the question of Public Internal Improvements. In many, if not in all, the States of the Atlantic slope, there has been a struggle more or less bitter between the tide water, or eastern, and the western portions of the same States for political power. It was perfectly natural that such a contest should spring up. The tide water regions would naturally be first settled and would first become wealthy. Population would naturally precede property in the occupation of the constantly receding back country, and in due course of time the rights of persons on the frontier would seem to be in conflict with the rights of property in the old settlements. In a government, democratic and popular in form, the result of this conflict, though delayed, could never be uncertain. Whenever there comes a conflict, real or supposed, between the rights of men and the protection of property, the popular voice will always declare in favor of the rights of men. There is another cause why this conflict between the eastern and the western portions of the Atlantic States was unavoidable. The tide water country is generally more or less provided by nature with facilities for transportation to the shape of navigable streams, and in addition, the character of the country, generally, is such that communication and transportation by means of the ordinary roads, is much more easy and frequent. As the people on their march westward occupied the Piedmont and mountainous

parts of the State, they were cut off from navigable streams, and their only facilities for transportation were such as were afforded by the ordinary rough lines of travel through a broken or mountainous country. This state of things soon led to a demand, first for turnpikes and river improvements, and then for railroads, to be paid for by the State at large. That this demand should be resisted by the property-holders of the Eastern portions of the State, who were to be directly benefited neither in their property nor in their persons by these works, was certainly not unnatural. We are happy, however, to think that much if not all the bitterness that existed in old times upon this subject has passed away. The common danger to which we have all been subjected at the hands of a Chief Justice from the West, a Governor from the Centre, and a Senator from the East, all natives of North Carolina, has blotted out all former differences of opinion among us. The emancipation of the slaves, constituting so large a portion of the property of the East, by removing the cause of the unequal operation of the necessary taxation, has also done much to remove the mere local sectional opposition to the expenditure of the public money for purposes of public internal improvement. The question now comes before the people upon its intrinsic merits, unclouded by sectional prejudices or personal interests. Recognizing, therefore, the necessities of the brethren of the West and the probable benefits to be reaped by the whole State, we do not hesitate to declare, plainly and unequivocally, that while opposing corruption and extravagance and unnecessary expenditure of the public money in every form, we will yet, as an act of simple justice to the people of the West, and ultimately as a matter of sound policy for the State at large, favor a judicious system of internal improvements as liberally as the resources of the State will safely warrant.

**North Carolina Bonds.**  
Messrs. Utley & Dougherty, Bankers and Brokers, No. 11 Wall street, New York, in their circular of 20th October, 1870, quote North Carolina Bonds as follows:  
Wilmington and Weldon 7's, bid 90; Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford 10's, bid 88; State North Carolina, asked, 58; Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford 10's, asked 55; North Carolina 1st mort. 8's, bid 88; North Carolina 2nd mort. 8's, asked 55; Raleigh and Gaston Stock, bid 50, asked 55; Williams ton and Tarboro' R R 8's, asked 75.

**BISHOP ATKINSON ON GENERAL LEE.**—The Rt. Rev. Bishop Atkinson preached at St. James' Church, in this city, on Sunday morning last. He alluded feelingly and eloquently to the death of General LEE. He incidentally cited his character as an illustration of the power of Christian love. The solid columns of his many virtues was entwined with the graces of Christian love. The speaker knew him well and knew him to be a man who loved little children, his family, his country and his race, and whose great heart sympathized with suffering in every form. It was this tenderness and magnanimity of soul which knit him to the affections of so many tens of thousands of brave men, who were ready to pour out their lives for him; which has bowed all hearts throughout a large portion of this country with sorrow at his death, and touched with generous grief even those who dissented from his opinions and disapproved of his course.

**The War and the Cotton Crop.—The Folly of Southern Planters.**

It is not often that we quote the New York Tribune as authority for anything, but despite its political vagaries there is uniformly a degree of good sense in its observations on the practical affairs of every-day life that commands them to the sober consideration of all. Some remarks in its issue of Tuesday, on the present embarrassment of Southern planters and the ruinous policy that led to it, may, in our judgment, be classed under this head. At least, as such, we give them to our readers; with a cordial endorsement, and the planting community may profit by them if they will.

"While every week of European war and business derangement (says the Tribune) bloats the hopes of the wheat-grower and sustains his price, in the same ratio is cotton depressed. The declaration of hostilities in July, followed by the amazing vigor of the Prussian advance and the collapse of the French armies, has made it more and more certain that thousands and thousands of spindles must cease to run; that millions who had money to buy cloth last year will have no money this year. Navigation became timorous and capital over-cautions.

"The result is just what all the South feared—cotton hardly over a shilling a pound—in fact, less than twelve and a half cents, gold. It is now quite well ascertained that cotton gives no profit worth mentioning when the price goes below fifteen cents, and none at all when only ten is the price of good middling. At the New Orleans fair, in April, the cost of a pound of cotton was discussed, and the conclusion reached that on the best alluvial soils, in a good season, and with close management, ten cents will make a pound. But on the average up-land, and with the average economy, the planter loses who does not receive fifteen. Southern prosperity, which for two years has gone beyond all precedent in the days of the old regime, has received a blow; the planter is disheartened; the merchants are afraid to buy, and Southern goods are gathering dust in the lofts of New York warehouses.

"We have again and again counseled the cotton growing States that a devotion such as they have given to a single product, for marketing which they must look to foreign countries, is bad economy, and can result in no lasting and permanent benefit. A community that lives by cotton only, or wheat only, or tobacco, or rice, or sugar, will run over a great surface with a low and exhaustive tillage. Nothing is returned to the soil for crops taken off. Prosperity is measured by dollars that come over seas—not by such true tests as the condition of roads, houses, bridges, churches and stock. A foreign market is a precarious market. When it is good it throws abundance of spending money into the planter's pocket, and he scatters it for things that perish with the using. He buys a saddle horse from Kentucky, a carriage from New York; his family indulge in expensive silks, rare china and velvet carpets.

"Then comes a crash; the merchant has advanced several thousands on a crop that hardly pays for picking, and holds a mortgage on the land. Expenses must be reduced, the old luxuries are partly abandoned, and retrenchment throws a gloom over the family and broods over the neighborhood. Another year the price goes up, and with it the profusion of living. Thus agriculture, instead of proceeding with the wise calmness and grand uniformity of nature, becomes a speculation, almost a game. If the planter becomes a gambler, what wonder that the merchant, the lawyer, the politician follows in his wake, and the whole social fabric is convulsed by a sudden telegram from London. Cannot our Southern brethren see that a composed, well-based, established, yet progressive civilization is inconsistent with their misplaced confidence in a single product? and will they not take a lesson from the gloomy experience of this year, and no longer prop all their hopes on a cotton bale? Though the planter makes only his living this year, he is by no means poor. The crop of 1868 and 1869 paid him handsome returns, and he can command the means of

engaging in varied culture and a diversified industry.

"First of all, he should arrange to produce all the wheat, all the corn, oats, pork, and beef he consumes. He should examine new methods and learn whether his long, sunny summers cannot do something more for him than merely to open a boll of cotton. He can grow figs and dry them; he can raise sweet potatoes in large quantities, pare and slice them, and, by drying in a kiln, give the soldier and the sailor and the poor of cities cheap and nutritious food. On his rough land the Angola goat will prosper. His forests can be made profitable for bark, for tanner's ooze, and for lumber. On his sunny Southern slopes the grape will gather sweetness. Thus his land will become attractive, and its value will greatly enhance. If the adversity of this year can be made to utter an expressive lesson on true thrift for the South, the cloud that now over-shadows their industry really has a silver lining."

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For the Journal.

United States Senator.  
OCTOBER 24th, 1870.  
Dear Major:—I have been thinking, for some time, that I would write to you as to the election of a United States Senator by our next Legislature. I regretted somewhat the letter of Col. Cowan. I approved of his nomination by you, but I could not then endorse his withdrawal, for the reasons stated by him. In the light, however, of recent elections, the course he recommends is, doubtless, the true one. The next Congress will evidently have a decided Radical majority; we can entertain no hope of a general amnesty bill, and very little of individual relief.

Under these circumstances we may regard gentlemen who labor under disability as excluded from the contest; indeed, I think the Conservatives of North Carolina have settled down to this conclusion. The selection will, doubtless, be made from those who have never labored under the political disabilities imposed by the recent amendments to the Constitution of the United States, or whose disabilities have been removed by act of Congress. General M. W. Ransom, of Northampton county, is one of the latter class, and I must confess that I prefer him for the position above all others, and I know that he is the choice of a very large majority of the people among whom I reside. I may be somewhat influenced by personal friendship and long intimacy, but these enable me to form a just estimate of his character.

Gen. Ransom is immediately descended from one of the oldest families in Halifax County, and one of the very best stocks in North Carolina—a family which has evidenced its devotion to the cause of the South by more than one noble sacrifice. He was, when the war broke out, a lieutenant of the army, and was promoted to a Lieutenant Colonelcy, and came out as a Brigadier General, side by side with, and one of the trusted friends of, our glorious departed hero, at Appomattox. He has borne himself more gallantly throughout the whole contest, yet few had more ties to keep them at home.

Since the war he has acted with all that prudence, yet with all that fidelity, which the best interests of the South demand. He has been a constant and intimate friend, and I know that North Carolina numbers not within her limits a son more faithful to the traditions of his State, or one more allied to the great principle of Constitutional liberty which drew us into the late war; and yet whom a wise statesmanship counsels more to that moderation which is consistent with principle. That man is most to be trusted whose feelings are in the fullest accord with our people, and yet whose discretion enables him to make the best of the inevitable.

Gen. Ransom is, moreover, a man of undoubted ability, and of genuine eloquence, especially in a studied production, such as we may suppose adapted to the floor of the Senate of the United States. He graduated at Chapel Hill when Charles Hill was in his prime, and his halls were decorated by the footfall of the carpet bagger, and divided the honors with Pettigrew, one of North Carolina's ablest and most lamented sons. He is a man, too, of fine address, "a gentleman and a scholar," and, I am sure, that the U. S. Senate will have reason to be proud of her representative.

I will not now refer to the question as to which section, the East or the West, is most entitled to the Senator. I think we are more interested in the fitness of the man for the position than in the section from which he may hail. I advocate the election of General Ransom not because he is an Eastern man, but because I believe that he unites, within himself, more of the qualities essential to the proper discharge of the duties of Senator than any other eligible candidate who has been named in connection therewith; at the same time I cannot close this letter without bearing my testimony to the high ability and sterling patriotism of the most prominent, eligible gentleman from the West, named for the office by his friends, in which, I am sure, General Ransom would most heartily join me.

By giving this letter a place in the Journal you will confer a favor on an Old Friend.

**The Laurens Affair.—Frenks of Joe Crews.**  
He Stirs up Strife, and Beats a Retreat.—Rumors and Reports.—Six Men.

(Correspondence of the Charleston Courier.)  
COLUMBIA, S. C., Oct. 22, 1870.  
Two companies of United States troops went up to Laurens and Newberry to-day. The last intelligence from the scene of action is that seven men were killed. Two of the Constabulary and four negroes were shot. The Constabulary and the high-principled Secretary of the Interior, who accompanied the two former, both Cameron and Chandler have been skilful and fortunate in navigating the political current, so as to keep in good places themselves, and to prevent the party which repelled the party strength one vote more than he repelled. In accomplishing the removal of Secretary Cox for the reasons assigned, they have done both the party and the President the greatest possible injury. Cameron nearly ruined the Republican cause in the South by the short space of nine months, and he will ruin any other that he is allowed to have any influence with.

From the London Standard.  
General Lee.  
The announcement that General R. E. Lee has been struck down by paralysis, and will never recover, has been received, even at this crisis, with universal interest, and will everywhere excite a sympathy and regret which testify to the deep impression made on the world at large by his character and achievements. Few are the generals who have earned, since history began, a greater respect for humanity, civil or military, whose personal qualities would bear comparison with his. The bitterest enemies of his country hardly dared to whisper a word against the character of the man, and the friends of the South regarded him with a respect for his deeds and a respect for his lofty and unselfish nature which almost grew into veneration, and his own countrymen learned to look up to him with as much confidence and esteem as they ever look up to a leader. He was a man of such a noble and disinterested character, and of such a high and noble nature, that he was almost perfect of Washington could never inspire. The death of such a man, even at a moment so exciting as the present, when all thoughts are absorbed by a nearer and present conflict, would be felt as a misfortune of the first order, and a great loss to the interest with which they followed the Virginia campaigns, and by thousands who have almost forgotten the names of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, the Wilderness and Spotsylvania. True greatness, a loftier nature, a spiriter nobleness, a character purer, more chivalrous, the world has rarely, if ever known. Of stainless life and deep religious feeling, yet free from all taint of cant and fanaticism, and as dear and congenial to the Cavalier Stuart as the Puritan Stonewall Jackson; a man, too, who was able to sacrifice all at the call of duty; ready to sacri-

barbarians and tyrannized over by such outlaws as Joe Crews and his bands of ruffians, the better it will be for the progress and advancement of the State. The house of Mr. Edmund Davis was entirely consumed last night, by fire, at about two o'clock. The fire was seen issuing from the back piazza, and was, undoubtedly, the work of incendiaries. Nothing was saved. He was insured for \$2,500—lost \$4,000. The militia are still guarding their armory here. It is needless to say that our citizens have no design upon them. We understand there will be over two hundred cases of illegal voting sent up from this county. Persons from Newberry, Kershaw, and North Carolina voted in our county. There are five hundred cases from Edgefield, and any quantity occurred at Laurens.

## Interesting Epistles.

Some exquisitely characteristic correspondence of Edwin M. Stanton is published by the New York World. It was lately asserted by Senator Henry Wilson that Stanton courted an alliance with the Radical party while he was in Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet. But now, when the Radicals came into power and gave him nothing, it appears that he began to abuse them to Mr. Buchanan. Here are letters, written after the close of the Buchanan administration, and before the Lincoln administration had made Stanton Secretary of War:

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1861.  
Dear Sir—Notwithstanding what has been said in the papers, and the universal reports here during the last week, the order for the removal of the troops from Sumter has not, as I am assured, yet been given. Yesterday it was still under debate. Even the friends of the administration, of any settled policy or harmonious concert of action in the administration, Seward, Bates and Cameron from one wing; Chase, Welles and Blair, the opposite wing. Smith is on both sides, and Lincoln sometimes on one, sometimes on the other. There has been no agreement, nothing, Lincoln, it is complained on the streets, has undertaken to distribute the whole patronage, small and great, leaving nothing to the chiefs of departments. Growls about Scott's "inability" are beginning to be heard. The Republicans are beginning to think that a monstrous blunder was made in the tariff bill, and that it will cut the trade of New York, build up New Orleans and the Southern ports, and leave the government without revenue. They see before them the prospect of being obliged to manage and without credit. But with all this it is certain that Anderson will be withdrawn. I do not believe that there will be much further effort to assail you. Mr. Sumner told me yesterday that Scott's proposed order was not purely military reasons, and the limited military resources of the government. The embarrassments that surround you they now feel; and whatever may be said against you must recoil as an argument against them, and in giving reasons for the removal of the troops, they must exhibit the facts that controlled you in respect to Sumter.

Mr. Holt has gone to New York. I have not seen him. When he called on me I happened to be from home, and when I called he was absent. Judge Black is here, and I suppose he will stay for some time. He is staying at Harrison's.

I hope to be able to procure a copy of Mr. Holt's letter and General Scott's comments next week, and I intend to call and see the General and have a talk with him. With sincere regard, I remain, yours truly,  
EDWIN M. STANTON.  
His Excellency James Buchanan.

On the 16th of July, 1861, Stanton wrote again to his friend, the ex-President:

So far as your administration is concerned its policy in reference to both Sumter and Pickens is fully vindicated by the course of the present administration. Forty days after the inauguration of Lincoln no use was made of the means that had been placed at his disposal for the purpose of averting the calamity of civil war; and every month for a long time to come will, I am afraid, furnish fresh evidence of the magnitude of the calamity. General Dix is still here. He has been shamefully treated by the administration. With sincere regard I remain, as ever, truly yours,  
EDWIN M. STANTON.  
His Excellency James Buchanan.

**Condition of the Cotton Crop.**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—The Agricultural Department has issued the following statement in regard to the condition of the cotton crop:

The increase in breadth of cotton was estimated in July at 12 per cent. The appearance of the crop on the 1st of October was reported as follows: Below the average in condition—in Mississippi, 1 per cent.; in Alabama, 4 per cent.; in Louisiana, 5 per cent.; in Georgia, 6 per cent.; in Tennessee, 3 per cent. Above the average—in Texas, 5 per cent.; Arkansas, 5 per cent.; Florida, 2 per cent.; South Carolina, 4 per cent.; North Carolina, 9 per cent.—Combining the elements of the average crop planted, and its condition on the 1st of October, natural expansion and other circumstances being equal, would lead to a comparison with last year as follows: North Carolina, 15 per cent. increase; South Carolina, 9 per cent.; Georgia, 5 per cent.; Florida, 9 per cent.; Alabama, 8 per cent.; Mississippi, 10 per cent.; Louisiana, 10 per cent.; Texas, 30 per cent.; Arkansas, 15 per cent.; and Tennessee, 10 per cent. This would give a crop exceeding three and a half millions of bales, but the indications of the season thus far, by reports since October 1st, and the probabilities of a favorable autumn for the maturing and picking of the crop, would justify a forecast of a return of the remarkably favorable experience of the past season. In 1869 discouragement and drawbacks appeared in the spring, but gradually disappeared, the season culminating in almost unexampled favor with exemption from destroying frosts, blighting rains, and all sorts of disease. The present crop was vigorous in its early growth, running to weed rather than to ball; then it was burned with drought in August and flooded with rain in September, and the result was a crop not only able to continued fruitfulness, as a general shedding of forms and an occasional rotting of bolls attest. Ball worms and army-worms have been at work in places, and not more or less prevalent in all the cotton States. The opening of the season has been unusually well advanced in most places, and the last picking promises to be light. These indications, instead of pointing to an increase of a third of a million of bales, render it probable that the present crop will be no larger than the last, and if the remainder of the season should be very unpropitious, a reduction of a quarter of a million of bales might result. Another month or two will determine whether the present crop should be limited to three millions of bales, or rise to three and a half millions. As predicted early in the season, the promise of an average crop upon the present area in cultivation has reduced the price to fifteen cents per pound, or to the very verge of profitable cultivation, and correspondents are already reporting the ruin of planters who rely on cotton exclusively and buy all agricultural supplies.